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Contact: Eva Malecki, AOC  
(202) 228-1793

Contact: Dan Weiser, CAO  
(202) 226-1091

## **ARCHITECT OF THE CAPITOL TO EXPAND SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMS CAPITOL-WIDE**

WASHINGTON – Daniel J. Strodel, Chief Administrative Officer for the House of Representatives, and Stephen T. Ayers, AIA, LEED AP, Architect of the Capitol, announced today that the Architect of the Capitol (AOC) will assume and expand the House of Representatives' sustainability initiatives formerly conducted by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO). This will further improve efficiencies in the effort to reduce energy consumption on Capitol Hill.

The CAO's organization brought a number of sustainability issues to the forefront for the House of Representatives, and identified a number of energy and cost-savings measures that the AOC then carried out. To further improve efficiencies and educational resources Congress-wide, these initiatives will now be directed by the AOC whose mission it is to preserve and enhance the Capitol complex.

"Saving energy saves money and consolidating our sustainability programs helps save taxpayer dollars by improving efficiencies and allows us to make smart and sound investments throughout the Capitol complex. This greatly improves our return on investment in Congressional facilities by continuing to include sustainability in our long-range project planning," noted Ayers.

In 2010, the Architect of the Capitol installed 30,000 energy-efficient light fixtures, and converted 2,700 bathroom fixtures to automatic, low-flow units. These upgrades helped to achieve a 23.3 percent reduction in water consumption in the House Office Buildings from Fiscal Year 2009 to Fiscal Year 2010. In addition, approximately 1,250 bathroom fixtures were diverted from landfills and sent to a local asphalt plant for recycling. The AOC also installed a dimmable LED lighting technology in the Rayburn Cafeteria. In a matter of months, energy consumption for lighting in the cafeteria was reduced by more than 70 percent.

As a result of these efforts and others, Congress's energy reduction efforts have yielded great results. In Fiscal Year 2010, the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 (EISA 2007) goal was exceeded by reducing energy consumption 17 percent, beating the Fiscal Year 2010 requirement of a 15 percent reduction.

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“Working with the AOC, our staff put together a blueprint that we’ve used to save energy on the House side of the Capitol,” said Strodel. “Now it’s time to hand this initiative over to the Architect to incorporate sustainable practices across the Capitol complex to realize even greater savings.”

For more information about sustainability, visit [www.aoc.gov/sustainability.cfm](http://www.aoc.gov/sustainability.cfm).

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